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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Randall L. Findley, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/977,045

Filed: October 12, 2001

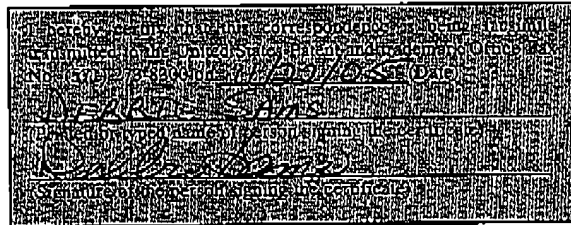
Title: PROGRAMMABLE FEEDBACK DELAY PHASE-LOCKED
LOOP FOR HIGH-SPEED INPUT/OUTPUT TIMING BUDGET
MANAGEMENT AND METHOD OF OPERATION THEREOF

Grp./A.U.: 2638

Examiner: Chieh M. Fan

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c)

Before continuing examination of the above-identified application, please refer to
the below arguments and amend the claims as indicated.